



March 30, 2015

## Weekly Report

# A Highlight of Departmental Activities

*The Weekly Report showcases the activities and accomplishments of the many Departments within Rutherford County Government. Click on the directory lists, headings and text in blue to be linked to more information.*

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### Agriculture/Cooperative Ext.

#### Family and Consumer Sciences:

- Submitted monthly news column to Daily Courier.
- Conducted monthly update for radio.
- Taught Color Me Healthy nutrition class for preschoolers.
- Taught Better Food Better Health nutrition class for Latino adults.
- Attended professional association meeting.

#### Agriculture:

- **Agriculture Literacy Program** presented to second grade students in conjunction with Rutherford County Soil & Water District, Farm Service Agency and Rutherford County Farm Bureau. **Agriculture Literacy Program** is held during National Agriculture Week. A special thanks to the Rutherford County Farm Bureau for their donation of funding the books/workbooks that were given to each of the schools.



- **2015 Spring Garden School** was held on March 14th. Rutherford County Master Gardener Volunteers networked to provide training to Rutherford, Cleveland, Polk and McDowell residents.

- **Rutherford County Farmers Market Committee** is preparing for March 31<sup>st</sup> Vendor meeting, and the upcoming season.

- Networking with NCDA&CS Pesticide Disposal Division for a **'Pesticide Collection Day'** slated for Wed., April 15th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Opportunity to properly dispose of any pesticide products no longer being used.

- Radio Programs with WCAB & WGTM

#### Spring Garden School Participants



## Airport

The Airport sold 733.5 gallons of 100LL and 1,253.0 gallons of Jet A last week.



The pictured aircraft stopped by the Rutherford County airport last week as it was passing through and is of particular interest. It looks like any Cessna 182 at first glance, but this aircraft is powered with an engine designed by Socata and Renault Sport. It is a four-cylinder, air-cooled diesel engine that burns Jet A fuel instead of traditional 100LL fuel.



There is a push to get rid of 100LL in the future due to its lead content. In fact, it takes longer to get a shipment of 100LL now because of the shutting down of refineries that produce 100LL. This aircraft will end up very soon in Africa where it will perform mission work. The location this plane is going currently still supplies 100LL and Jet A fuel. However, the price of their 100LL is around \$22.00 per gallon while Jet A is around \$8.00 per gallon. (By comparison, we are currently selling 100LL for \$4.35 per gallon and Jet A at \$4.00 per gallon.)

## Board of Elections

This week a meeting was held with a Candidate Committee treasurer to correct campaign forms previously submitted. The Director began work with a new system for GIS audit with the State Board of Elections. Staff completed a large records request for the Republican Party and continued scanning records from the 2014 General election.

## Clerk to the Board

Rutherford County Commissioners were involved with several meetings this week involving Department Heads and County Manager. They also had several individual appointments with citizens.

Commissioner Bryan King attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Day at Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy (**pictured to right**). He also traveled to Asheville for a Performance and Quality Committee meeting at Smoky Mountain Behavioral Health Center along with the County Manager.

Commissioner Alan Toney and Commissioner Bryan King enjoyed a tour of the Isothermal Community College.

Staff was engaged in webinars, meetings, and daily operational duties.



## **County Manager**

The County Manager continued budget talks this week with individual Department Heads preparing numbers and covering specific discussions in preparation of the upcoming fiscal year. The County Manager and Chairman of Board attended a Performance and Quality Committee meeting at Smoky Mountain Behavioral Health Center in Asheville. The Manager enjoyed a guided tour of the Courthouse by Clerk of Court, Steve Owens. He also met with Dr. Mason, School Superintendent. The week continued with additional duties, including numerous calls, interoffice meetings, public relations, advising, preparation for various responsibilities and meeting with citizens.

## **Economic Development**

This week, the Economic Development Department attended several meetings to follow up with multiple industrial recruitment and expansion prospects, and reached out to industry representatives to meet grant reporting deadlines. Economic Development staff continues work on marketing and advertising efforts including online and print media. This week's schedule also included an existing industry visit with Touchstone Fine Cabinetry.

## **Fire Marshal/Emergency Management**

Fire Marshal and staff:

- Attended NC Emergency Management Spring Conference
- Participated in statewide Search and Rescue exercise in Buncombe County
- Worked with GIS on fire hydrant mapping
- Assisted Forest City Fire Dept on a missing person search

## **Finance**

The Director attended several interdepartmental meetings. Budget packages have begun to be reviewed by the Finance Office. The Director and Assistant Director met with the County Manager and several departments to discuss their requests.

## **Human Resources**

The HR Director held meetings to discuss personnel issues, exit interviews, and retirements. Welcome new hires:

- Paula Hailey (p/t Transit)
- Randy Kanipe (p/t Transit)
- Jill Jones (EMS)
- David Cook (Sheriff)
- Sharron Fieber (p/t TDA)
- Genevieve Helms (p/t TDA)

The Director held several meetings with various department heads, attended budget meetings, and attended a webinar on performance appraisals. Staff has been in several meetings this week preparing for 2016 ACA reporting guidelines. Current vacancies are as listed:

Part time Transit

EMS

Apply at [Rutherfordcountync.gov](http://Rutherfordcountync.gov) or 289 North Main Street.

Please be watching for email blasts for Relay for Life. The team is geared up and doing a great job **(additional info on page 9-11)**.



## Library

### **Library Director:**

April spent the week planning for and attending the CMC libraries meeting, the NC Public Library Directors meeting and evaluating new staff members. In addition, April and Kenneth met with Clark Poole of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss a “Get to know Rutherford County” speaker series. Final preparations for the book sale were completed.



### **Circulation Manager:**

Thirty-five people attended the Civil War 150 program at the Rutherford County Library on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Attendees were treated to an informational presentation by Michael Hill and entertaining dulcimer music by John Mason, as well as refreshments and door prizes. Historical items from both the Confederate and Union perspectives of the War were also on display. (See photos.)



### **Youth Services Librarian:**

The children of Story Time were as curious as Curious George as they learned about monkeys this week. We'll be taking a break from our wild animals theme next week to have Easter parties—complete with egg hunts. Outreach was at the Carver Center and Forrest Hunt Elementary. Final preparations have been made for the Super Science Saturday on March 28 at 11:00. The partnership with KidSenses will bring the “Sub Zero Effect” program to the library. We'll be freezing things with liquid nitrogen, shattering them, and exploding them. Contracts have also been made with all the entertainers for the Summer Reading Program, which will be on Tuesdays, beginning June 16.

### **Haynes Branch:**

Deb and Crystal participated in two webinars. The first webinar was about Historical photographs and the second was on power searching. The Haynes Branch accepted and processed donated books and sorted some of the donations out to go to the County Library for the book sale. Deb received a library donation of an old hand-drawn map of the Henrietta, Caroleen and Avondale areas donated by Bill Childers.

### **Mountains Branch:**

Joy Sharp planned programming for Earth Day and Mothers' Day at the Library. She also attended and promoted a new online genealogy class offered by the state library, RootsMOOC. The library welcomed and photographed families from Lake Lure Classical Academy who visited the library to see their children's artwork on display. Joy assisted both children and adults with school research projects using library and online sources. In addition, Joy reviewed current Best Books and Movies lists for 2015 to help in library collection development. Angela Turner supervised community service workers in organizing the DVD collection, as well as supervising the scheduling of library volunteers.

A 2014 reproducible federal tax form book is now available behind the front desk at the Rutherford County Library. This book contains Schedules A, B, C, EIC, F, R, SE, & 8812, and Forms 1040NR, 1040-V, 2441, 3903, 4506-T, 4684, 4868, 8822, 8829, 8863, 8949, 8962, 8965, 9465, as well as instructions for these forms. Copies of these forms can be made for patrons at a charge of 15 cents each if they would rather do that than print off of the internet. Forms 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ are still available for patrons to pick up for free in the lobby.

## Register of Deeds

Transaction Group	Cash
Copies	\$ 52.00
Real Estate	11,762.00
Marriages	800.00
Vital statistics	1,870.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,294.00</b>

## Senior Center

Jane Armstrong, former owner of De-Clutter for Real Life, came to the Senior Center on Tuesday to present *“How to De-Clutter Part III: How to Set Goals When I Feel Overwhelmed with Things”*. The Center also hosted “Meet & Eat” on Tuesday evening at Scott’s Tri-City Fish Camp & Country Cooking. On Wednesday, the Senior Shiners traveled to Fairhaven Rest Home to spread cheer to their residents, and we had our fourth *“Living Healthy with Diabetes”* class. This is a highly participatory workshop offered once a week for a total of six weeks. The sessions are designed to build skills in managing the chronic health concerns of diabetes. We will have the Senior Performing Arts (The Follies) on Friday night (March 27) at 7:00 p.m. This event is open to the public and admission is only \$2.00. The seniors will be competing for the “Best-Over-All Blue Ribbon”. Lastly, tax preparation continues to be provided at the Center by the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program. This is a free tax preparation service for low to moderate income individuals, with special attention to those 60 and over. The trained volunteers will be available, by appointment only, on Thursdays and Fridays, through April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Upcoming:**

The Rutherford County Senior Games promote health and wellness activities through athletic and artistic endeavors for Rutherford County citizens age **50** and better. Seniors compete for awards in their own gender/age category. The dates of the events are as follows:

Performing Arts     March 27  
Opening Gala        April 2  
Sporting Events     April 2-17



## Social Services

Work continues toward the implementation of the Northwood's Case Management System for social work services. Staff has been very busy over the past two weeks scanning records into the document management system. This will be complete over the next week and ready to roll out the Co-Pilot phrase of the program. This is the mobile piece that will allow workers to connect with the system while in the field, using iPads, entering information directly into the system. They will also have the ability to print in the field utilizing portable printers. Income Maintenance Management continues to be proactive during the implementation of Medicaid into the NC FAST System. Staff has worked extremely hard putting in many hours of overtime toward meeting their March 31 deadline to have all Medicaid recertifications current. They have made great progress. The DSS Board held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 18, with all members attending. In addition to their regular agenda items, the Board viewed a demonstration of the Northwoods System presented by Amanda McGee and Gregory Osborne. They heard updates on several legislative issues and proposed bills, as well as, an update on NC FAST. In addition, the Director attended committee meetings and the statewide DSS Director's Meeting in Raleigh, met with the new County Manager, and attended a budget meeting with the County Manager, Finance Manager, and DSS Fiscal Officer, Pam Price. Interviews were recently conducted for several vacant positions. DSS welcomes new employee, Paula Riggs (Medicaid).

## Sheriff's Department

### **Community: Region C Awards**

Members of the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office were recognized by the Region C Board at their yearly banquet and received a Region C Award.

Region C is comprised of law enforcement agencies from Rutherford, Polk, McDowell and Cleveland Counties.

The Region-C banquet recognized officers and civilians for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Receiving a Region C Award were

Shelley Owens received the Region C Civilian Administrative Secretary of the year award.

Cpl. Brandon Ellenburg received the Region C Uniform Officer of the Year award.

Pastor Paul Scott of Big Spring Baptist Church in Hollis received the Region C Richard Corley Award for his service to the community and support of law enforcement.

The awards were presented by Lt. Warren Sprouse (Rutherford County Sheriff's Office) and Lt. Shannon Price (Shelby Police Dept.)

A BIG thank you to Big Springs Baptist Church and members who helped make the Annual Awards a success.



## **Revenue Department**

**The Revenue Department** handled 56 VTS assists. The office answered 604 phone calls and assisted 375 customers. We completed two plat reviews, and answered six data requests. Appraisers completed 206 field reviews and 40 informal appeals. A total of 53 new documents were recorded. Transfers consisted of 57 straits, 5 estates, 28 new accounts, 3 splits, and 1 merge. GIS created sixteen new maps. E911 addressing assigned six new addresses and updated 26 addresses with new owner information. Three appeal/listings were received and 78 letters were mailed back out. The PUV program mailed 4 letters, and assisted seven program members. Twenty letters were mailed concerning listings. Our office had seven discoveries this week. Collection action consisted of eight attachments, eight debt set-off and four newspaper items. Staff completed 27 gross receipts/occupancy tax, and 8 payment plans. Thirty-five new deeds were certified for recording purposes.

## **Soil & Water**

The Soil and Water staff attended the budget meeting to discuss the District and Watershed budgets.  
Admin/Education Specialist:

- visited Cliffside Elementary to read to Second Grade classes for the Agricultural Literacy Program
- participated in Heritage Day at Sunshine Elementary
- sent Farmland and District Meeting notices
- worked on Watershed information

Ag Cost Share Technician:

- researched information for the county manager on watershed dams
- met with farmers for planning
- measured Best Management Practices for payment

## **Solid Waste**

The solid waste department has had a very busy week. The solid waste department numbers are below:

Customers served 349

Loads hauled from convenience centers 67

Loads shipped to Lenoir 34

Recycling loads sent to Conover 2

Tire customers 34

The director and recycling coordinator attended the Carolina Recycling Association conference in Myrtle Beach. Staff continues to perform everyday job duties while continuing to work at the airport and around convenience centers. Staff has cleaned out the silt hole that the state erosion folks had documented during a recent visit. We have a couple of spots we will have to sow grass according to the recent inspection. Shop employees are still performing routine service on equipment.

The Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer report is as follows:

Active cases 4

Convenience site cases 2

Cameras on site 1

Letters written 0

Community service workers 5

Community service reports 1

**Please continue to recycle!**

## Transportation Services

### **Emergency Medical Services:**

EMS hired Jill Jones, our new Medical Billing Specialist, this week. Training was held with all employees on new charting software that will be implemented April 1, 2015. Staff also visited Polk County EMS to get an overview of their current billing operations. Director also attend a meeting at RRHS pertaining to re-admits to see if there was an opportunity for a community paramedic to assist in the reduction of re-admits for chronically ill patients.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Emergency Calls	152	168
Convalescent Calls	76	47

### **Transit Department:**

Transit held a steering committee meeting to review the current information being completed on the 5 year plan, per NCDOT. Training continued for the new drivers hired last week.

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK	WEEKLY AVG
Total Miles	10,312	9,566
# of Local Trips	1,156	881
# of Out of County Trips	94	66
# Unduplicated Passengers	248	238
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$16,295</b>	<b>\$14,549</b>

## Veterans Services

<b>Mail In</b>	39
<b>Fax</b>	88
<b>Mail Out</b>	57
<b>Phone Calls In/Out</b>	89
<b>Veteran Contacts</b>	228

Saturday, March 28th at 6:00 p.m., Vietnam Veteran's Day Celebration at 120 Trade St, Forest City, NC.

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#### *County Commissioners*

**Bryan A. King, Chairman**     **Michael Benfield**  
**Alan Toney, Vice Chairman**     **Eddie Holland**

**Steve Garrison, County Manager**  
**Carl Classen, Interim County Manager**  
**Hazel S. Haynes, Clerk to the Board**

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[www.rutherfordcountync.gov](http://www.rutherfordcountync.gov)





## Upcoming Events.....

*If you would like to assist with any of these events, please print the Sign-up Sheet on page 11, sign and return to Jeanette Bosgra, Finance Department or call 828-287-6211.*

### SPAGHETTI SUPPER/GOSPEL SINGING

Date: Saturday, **April 11, 2015**  
Place: Gray's Creek Baptist Church  
Contact: Brandy Greene Morris 828-287-6329

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### SHOOTING FOR A CURE

Handgun Competition  
Shotgun Trap Games



Date: Saturday, **April 18, 2015**  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Place: Old Hickory Rifle and Pistol Club  
Gun Club Road, Bostic, NC 28018  
Cost: \$5 per shoot  
Beginners welcome. Bring your own shotgun, pistol and ammo. Shotgun and pistol ammo will be available for purchase. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be for sale.  
Sponsored by: Rutherford Co. Sheriff's Office, Butler's Jewelry and Loan, Old Hickory Rifle & Pistol Club  
All proceeds are to benefit **RELAY FOR LIFE**. Come and support a worthy cause!

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### SPRING PLANT SALE

*Transform your landscape and gardens with vibrant colors and fresh foliage!*

Date: Order deadline - Thursday, **April 23, 2015**  
Place: County Annex  
Pick up Date: Friday, **May 1, 2015**  
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.  
Go to Website for Plant Order Form: [http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form\(1\).pdf](http://rutherfordcountync.gov/fileUploads/files/2015%20Spring%20Relay%20Plant%20Sale%20Order%20Form(1).pdf)

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### MAYFEST CUPCAKE BOOTH

*Celebrating with a family friendly street festival!*

Date: Saturday, **May 2, 2015**  
Time: Beginning at 9:00 a.m.  
Place: Downtown Rutherfordton

## RELAY FOR LIFE COMMUNITY EVENT

Date: Friday, **June 5, 2015**  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Place: Forest City Parks and Recreation



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### RELAY FOR LIFE Tee shirts available.

Tee shirts are white with purple design.  
All Orders must be in to Finance by April 24, 2015



Call Jeanette Bosgra to place order at 828-287-6211.  
Pay now (cash or check to ACS) or pay on delivery  
Sizes: Youth S- L \$10.00      Adult S- XL \$10.00 / 2X - 6X \$12.00

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**Don't miss out!**  
**Participate in a Relay for Life event**  
**Sign-up Sheet on page 11. ☐**

## Relay Volunteer Sign Up Sheet



### Spaghetti Supper/Gospel Singing, Saturday, April 11th

1

2

3

4

### Shoot for A Cure, Saturday, April 18th

1

2

3

4

### Mayfest, Saturday, May 2nd

1

2

3

4

### Relay for Life Community Event

1

2

3

4